



Policy Proposals

Trebor Scholz, August 2018

- **Digital Agenda for Platform Co-ops**

Support platform co-ops because they enable democratic ownership, shared prosperity, and higher levels of participation in the governance of digital platforms.

- **Support Platform Co-op Incubators**

Support experimental spaces for grassroots innovation and startup accelerator programs for the cooperative digital economy

- **Investment Funds for the Digital Cooperative Economy**

The platform co-op model works but our research shows that it requires start-up funding to succeed. The tax advantages available for VC-backed firms need to also be available for platform co-ops. Bureaucracy needs to be reduced.

- **Cooperative Data Ownership**

Adapt legal structures to the needs of platform co-ops: with platform ownership comes the possibility of transparency of data flows for users/customers and workers, co-governance, and monetization of personal data to support public services.

- **Support Open Source Development**

Support the development of shared data standards among cooperatives. Open source tools can be especially useful for cooperatives as they can share data through reciprocity licenses.

- **Education**

Support of curriculum development that introduces the platform co-op model in business schools and law schools as well as statewide curriculum more generally.